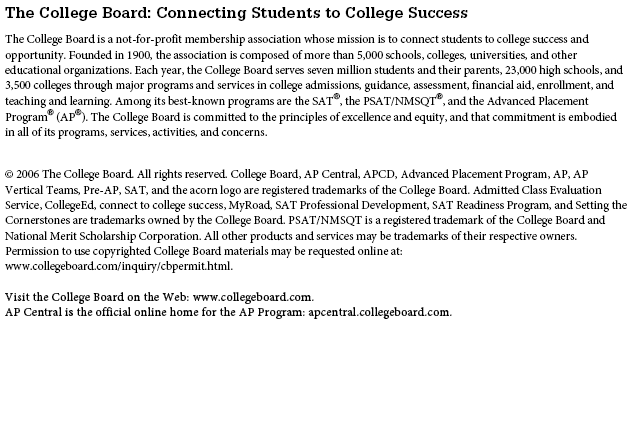




# **The Go Po Po Po**

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### UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

### Section I

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**SECTION I**

**Time – 45 minutes**

Directions: You have 45 minutes to answer all 60 of the following questions. Please choose the best response to each question and fill it in your answer sheet. Any work written in this test booklet will not be counted toward your grade.

1. The Framers of the U.S. constitution favored:
   1. direct democracy
   2. participatory democracy
   3. representative democracy
   4. Marxism
   5. Socialism
2. A coherent and consistent set of beliefs about who should rule and how is referred to as:
   1. political efficacy
   2. public opinion
   3. pragmatism.
   4. realism.
   5. political ideology.
3. The central issue in the framing of the U.S. Constitution was that of
   1. how strong to make the central government.
   2. how best to divide powers among the branches of government.
   3. how best to break with Great Britain.
   4. how to adopt liberty but still allow slaveholding.
   5. how to create a truly independent judiciary.
4. What effect does attending college have on political attitudes?
   1. Students generally become more liberal.
   2. Students generally become more conservative.
   3. College has only a minimal effect on students' attitudes
   4. Students' political attitudes depend on their socioeconomic status
   5. Students tend to become more moderate.
5. The Tax Reform Act of 1986 was a triumph of entrepreneurial politics because
   1. it made tax laws "fairer" and cut out tax "cheats."
   2. key Democratic legislators wanted lower taxes.
   3. key Republican legislators wanted higher taxes.
   4. Many Republican legislators wanted to overcome criticism of favoring higher taxes.
   5. special interests had little or no impact on the development of the Act.
6. Compared to the Senate of the 1950s and 1960s, today's Senate can best be described as
   1. less party centered, less leader oriented, more hospitable to freshmen, more heavily staffed, and more subcommittee oriented
   2. more party centered, more leader oriented, more hospitable to freshmen, more heavily staffed, and less subcommittee oriented
   3. less party centered, more leader oriented, more hospitable to freshmen, less heavily staffed, and more subcommittee oriented
   4. more party centered, less leader oriented, less hospitable to freshmen, less heavily staffed, and less subcommittee oriented
   5. more party centered, more leader oriented, less to freshmen, more heavily staffed, and less subcommittee oriented
7. Probably the best measure of an interest group's influence is its
   1. age
   2. wealth
   3. organizational skills
   4. contacts
   5. issue dexterity
8. A block grant is essentially a
   1. grant that benefits a single, local unit (or block).
   2. group of categorical or project grants
   3. reverse grant-in-aid—money flows from states back to the federal government.
   4. project grant with tighter restrictions
   5. a project grant with less federal support
9. Restrictions on the powers of federal administrators tended to be set aside during times of
   1. economic emergency
   2. war
   3. prosperity
   4. national expansion
   5. social stability
10. The litmus test is perhaps of greatest importance in nominations to
    1. constitutional courts
    2. district courts
    3. courts of appeal
    4. legislative courts
    5. the Supreme Court
11. Which of the following involves cash payment to aged, blind, or disabled people whose income is below a certain level?
    1. Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance (AOSDI)
    2. Medicare
    3. Unemployment Insurance
    4. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
    5. Supplemental Security Insurance
12. Fiscal policy attempts to affect the economy through
    1. money and bank deposits
    2. the price of money (interest rate)
    3. taxes
    4. expenditures
    5. C and D
13. The reason a member of Congress votes for or against a bill or amendment may be any of the following except
    1. representational
    2. conventional
    3. organizational
    4. attitudinal
    5. relational
14. In recent years, American voters have political beliefs that are
    1. very liberal
    2. very conservative
    3. close to the center of the political spectrum
    4. similar to members of Congress
    5. similar to members of the federal courts
15. Which of the following is most clearly affected by the personal popularity of the President?
    1. how well members of his part do in the House Elections
    2. how Congress treats his legislative proposals
    3. how well members of his party do in the Senate elections
    4. how he conducts foreign policy
    5. how he wields the clemency power
16. The War Powers Act of 1973 requires that
    1. Congress not interfere with the President’s role as commander-in-chief
    2. the President not spend money for military engagements without the prior approval of Congress
    3. the President consult with Congress when sending troops into a new conflict
    4. Congress declare war whenever the President sends troops into a conflict
    5. troops be removed from conflicts within 120 days of the beginning of the operation
17. A “council of revision” for acts of the national legislature was proposed in the
    1. Connecticut Plan
    2. New Jersey Plan
    3. Maryland Plan
    4. Virginia Plan
    5. Great Compromise
18. Which of the following statements about mandates is not true?
    1. They are reasonable enough, stated in the general terms
    2. They are the result of court orders
    3. They are tied to specific federal grants
    4. They are open to interpretation by federal officials
    5. A and B
19. Which of the following was not a device intended to prevent blacks from voting?
    1. the grandfather clause
    2. the poll tax
    3. the literacy test
    4. the Australian ballot
    5. the white primary
20. Brown v. Board of Education is an example of:
    1. taxpayer suit
    2. class-action suit
    3. Section 1983 suit
    4. reapportionment suit
    5. client participatory suit
21. Because defense contractors must bid competitively for contracts, and because the military must have its annual budget approved by Congress, there is a tendency to
    1. delay the acquisition of costly new hardware
    2. overestimate costs and acquire new hardware as quickly as possible
    3. pad the contracts with various nonessential items
    4. All of these
    5. underestimate the probable costs
22. The main reason the cabinet is a weak entry is that
    1. the secretaries are inherently jealous of one another
    2. not all agencies are members of the cabinet
    3. the secretaries defend, explain, and enlarge their own agencies
    4. they are all personal friends of the president
    5. tubular organizations schemes inevitably could the ability of members to communicate efficiently
23. One of the fears expressed by the Founders about aspects of the Presidency was the fear of a president’s
    1. claiming certain inherent powers by virtue of his position
    2. using the militia to overpower state governments
    3. using his position to shape public opinion
    4. powers to appoint select Supreme Court justices without congressional approval
    5. powers to pardon
24. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Amendment for the U.S. Constitution appeared to guarantee equal rights for blacks
    1. First
    2. Fourteenth
    3. Twenty-first
    4. Twenty-fifth
    5. Twenty-sixth
25. 25. Compared with the early years of the republic, the powers and autonomy of newspaper editors and reporters in the United States today is
    1. greater
    2. about the same.
    3. less.
    4. supreme.
    5. insignificant.
26. Congress and the president both complain that they are too weak to control political events. Another way of looking at this issue is to note that
    1. the federal government as a whole has become more constrained
    2. the powers of both branches is the same as it was at the time of the Framers
    3. the judicial branch has assumed the dominant role in legislative decision making
    4. national issues are less complex than they once were
    5. few politicians are risk-takers and see little benefit in unnecessary political conflict
27. Which of the following statements is incorrect?
    1. In order to win an election, a candidate must receive at least half of the votes of the electoral college
    2. Each state receives an electoral vote for each member it has in the House and the Senate
    3. In some states, electoral votes can be split
    4. State electors assemble in the state capitals to cast their ballots
    5. Electoral ballots are opened before members of the U.S. Supreme Courts during the first week in January
28. Each of the following was an objective of the Framers expect
    1. to make Congress accountable to the executive
    2. to oppose concentration of power in a single institution
    3. to balance large and small states
    4. to have Congress be the dominant institution
    5. C and D
29. Until the 1960s, the civil-rights movement did not have
    1. public support for radical integration
    2. any white allies among politician
    3. access to the courts
    4. widespread support among blacks themselves
    5. an agenda that was plausible
30. Which of the following were major issues in the three clearest cases of critical or realigning periods?
    1. crime
    2. slavery
    3. war
    4. economics
    5. B and D
31. The goal of the Framers of the U.S. Constitution was to create a
    1. political system in which majority rule was supreme
    2. pure democracy modeled after the New England town meeting
    3. pluralist democracy ruled by a political elite
    4. an autonomous collective
    5. republic based on a system of representation.
32. Which of the following statements is incorrect?
    1. Representatives must be 25 years of age
    2. Senators must be 35 years of age
    3. Representatives must be a citizen of the U.S. for 7 years
    4. Senators must be citizens of the U.S. for 9 years
    5. Representatives and senators must live in the state in which they are elected
33. The growth of numerous public interest lobbies in the 1960s was an example of interest groups forming as a result of
    1. government policy
    2. the emergence of talented leadership
    3. the enlargement of governmental responsibilities
    4. broad economic developments
    5. legislative capitulation
34. The small, intensely motivated groups protected by the Bill of Rights are the sort we would normally expect to be protected by
    1. client politics
    2. majoritarian politics
    3. interest group politics
    4. entrepreneurial politics
    5. reciprocal politics
35. One reason Social Security looked like a free lunch for much of its history was that
    1. Medicare costs were underestimated
    2. there were many payers and few beneficiaries
    3. most workers’ immediate benefits exceeded their immediate payments
    4. benefits were paid out by states but taxes were paid to the federal government
    5. most of the benefits were pro-rated
36. Several factors have contributed to the emphasis on themes over details in recent elections. One of these factors is
    1. increased use of computer-targeted direct mail
    2. rise in prospective voting
    3. increase in the number of televised debates and visuals
    4. campaign finance reform of 1974
    5. growing strength of political parties
37. Unlike other types of mass-membership organizations, public-interest lobbies principally benefit
    1. legislative leaders
    2. local chapters
    3. individual clients
    4. government employees
    5. nonmembers
38. Burning a flag is protected by the First Amendment whereas burning a draft card is not. The difference between these two acts is that
    1. government has a right to run a military draft and so can protect draft cards
    2. burning a draft card falls directly under the provisions of the Sedition Act of 1918
    3. burning a flag is not necessarily a political act
    4. burning a flag represents symbolic speech and is therefore protected by the First Amendment
    5. government cannot regulate speech which involves symbolism
39. Which of the following statements about laws intended to protect the privacy of citizens is correct?
    1. They do not really inhibit newspapers
    2. They exert strong pressure on newspapers to check all stories
    3. They apply to public officials only
    4. They apply to newspapers but not to other media
    5. They apply to newspapers and radio, but not television
40. Historically, the Supreme Court has been especially activist when
    1. Congress was in transition from control by one party to control by the other
    2. the political system was undergoing considerable change.
    3. the president was weak and indecisive
    4. Congress was weak and the President was strong
    5. the states’ were without power
41. When we say that a powerful presidency has been institutionalized, we mean that its power is no longer dependent on
    1. Congress
    2. personality
    3. legitimacy
    4. the U.S. Constitution
    5. Executive Orders
42. The Senate, not the House, became the crucial forum for debating the issue of slavery because
    1. the House at the time was dominated by the executive branch
    2. the Senate had the larger black representation
    3. senators were picked by the state legislatures
    4. House rules favored incumbents over challengers
    5. the House was too decentralized
43. The validity of public opinion may be affected by several factors, including
    1. poll overrepresentation of the views of a political elite
    2. the fact that public opinion tends to be relatively stable over time
    3. rapid shifts in public opinion
    4. poll overrepresentation of political culture factors such as liberty and civic duty
    5. excessive polling in certain parts of the country
44. In most states, candidates for office are chosen by
    1. the people
    2. party leaders
    3. primary elections
    4. conventions
    5. delegations
45. One effect of the growth in congressional staff has been to
    1. speed up legislation
    2. give members of Congress more control over legislation
    3. shift the advocacy of new programs to staff members
    4. decrease reliance on lobbies as sources of information
    5. increase the influence of corporate lawyers
46. Which of the following statements about the impact of television advertising is probably true?
    1. It is greater for clarifying issues than for projecting an image
    2. It is more pronounced in congressional than it is presidential races
    3. It is greater on primary elections than on general elections
    4. It is greater on general elections than on primary elections
    5. It is greater on strong partisans
47. An example of an informal congressional control over agencies is when
    1. Congress refuses to appropriate funds for agency spending
    2. Congress authorizes funds for agency spending, but refuses to appropriate them
    3. Congress refuses to authorize funds for agency spending
    4. the House Appropriations Committee chairperson uses a legislative veto
    5. individual members of Congress seek privileges for constituents
48. Which of the following statements regarding the warrant requirement is incorrect?
    1. The Fourth Amendment protects against unreasonable searches and seizures
    2. A warrant must be signed by a neutral magistrate, or judge.
    3. A Judge must be convicted there is probable cause before signing a warrant
    4. A warrant must describe what is to be search and seized
    5. None of these
49. Which of the following statements regarding aliens is incorrect?
    1. They can vote and run for office
    2. They must pay taxes and, if legally admitted, are entitled to welfare benefits
    3. They can be barred by states for serving on juries
    4. If illegally admitted, they cannot obtain a Social Security card
    5. Their children cannot be excluded from the public school system
50. One way to reduce the separation of powers called for in the Constitution would be to
    1. allow the president to serve two consecutive terms in office
    2. make the president and congressional candidates run as a team in each district
    3. forbid the president from appointing members of Congress to serve in the cabinet
    4. reduce the term of office for members of the House of Representatives from four years to two years
    5. increase the terms of office for Senators to eight years
51. The small, intensely motivated groups protected by the Bill of Rights are the sort we would normally expect to be protected by
    1. client politics
    2. majoritarian politics
    3. interest group politics
    4. entrepreneurial politics
    5. reciprocal politics
52. Having a strong agency culture can help an agency by motivating its employees to work hard, but it can also hurt it by
    1. increasing the numbers of highly structured roles
    2. making the agency resistant to change
    3. reducing cooperation among employees
    4. encouraging whistle-blowing
    5. promoting individuals who are patently unqualified
53. If you wanted to know what a member of Congress really thought about a bill, you would be best advised to look at how he or she voted
    1. on the final passage of a bill
    2. in the previous section
    3. during the quorum call of the bill
    4. on the referral of the bill
    5. on amendments to the bill
54. One explanation for the adversarial relationship that has developed between government officials and the media since Watergate is
    1. the ideological gap that exists between the media and officials
    2. the use of news releases
    3. the pressure on the media to retain their sources of information
    4. the growing power of local media
    5. the use of canned news
55. Perhaps the most obvious effect of federalism in the United States has been to
    1. centralize the government
    2. prevent states from blocking national interests
    3. increase conflict among elites
    4. raise the cost of organized political activity
    5. mobilize political activity
56. A president who is uncertain whether a policy he is considering will be controversial would be most likely to
    1. shift the decision to state leaders
    2. leak parts of the policy to the media
    3. commission a public-opinion poll
    4. ask opposition leaders for advice
    5. shift the decision to local leaders
57. The difference between a mandate and a condition of aid is that
    1. with a mandate the federal government tells a state government what it must do if it wants grant money
    2. a mandate applies to a block grant, a condition of aid applies to a categorical grant
    3. a mandate applies to a categorical grant; a condition of aid applies to a block grant
    4. with a mandate the federal government allows the state to do as it pleases if its action are in accordance with federal law
    5. with a mandate it makes no difference who is paying the costs of a program
58. Which of the following statements about Americans’ ideological thinking is correct?
    1. Most Americans describe themselves as either liberal or conservative
    2. Ideological thinking may be greater in some years than in others
    3. People’s opinions and their ideological labels are consistent on most issues
    4. Most Americans take ideologically consistent views on political issues
    5. Very few Americans classify themselves as moderate
59. Which of the following statements about the U.S. political party system is true?
    1. It has remained largely stable, with the Democratic and Republican parties dominating since the founding of the country
    2. It has experienced broad changes, with parties rising and declining over the years
    3. It all but ceased to exist by the 1980s
    4. It has grown steadily stronger as the power of the presidency has grown stronger
    5. It has rarely been strong and has never truly mobilized voters.
60. *Marbury* v. *Madison* had both legal and political significance. Which of the following rulings was of political significance?
    1. Congress may not add to the original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court
    2. The Supreme Court may declare void any laws repugnant to the U.S. Constitution
    3. Persons seeking writs of mandamus must go to a lower court.
    4. The Supreme Court will try to avoid direct confrontations with other branches of government
    5. Congress can expand or contract the appellate jurisdiction of the Court

#### END OF SECTION I

**UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS**

**SECTION II**

**Time – 100 minutes**

Directions: You have 100 minutes to answer all four of the following questions. Unless the directions indicate otherwise, respond to all parts of all four questions. It is suggested that you take a few minutes to plan and outline each answer. Spend approximately one-fourth of your time (25 minutes) on each question. In your response, use substantive examples where appropriate. Make certain to number each of your answers as the question is numbered below.

1. Assume you have been elected president. Your goal is to enact a legislative program. Discuss the best way to achieve this objective. Point out the strengths and weaknesses of presidential power, focusing on the factors a president can influence and manipulate.
2. Over the last several decades, the composition of the Democratic and Republican parties has changed in many important ways. A major partisan shift has occurred in the South, but other demographic changes have also been identified. Changes in party composition are reflected at different rates in presidential elections than in congressional elections.

 (a) Identify one specific trend evident in the figure above.

(b) Choose two of the following and use each to explain why southern voters from 1948 to 2000 were electing Democratic candidates to Congress more frequently than choosing Democratic candidates for the presidency.

- Incumbency advantage

-Gerrymandering

-Differences between state and national parties

1. All presidents complain about their inability to control the bureaucracy. Are these complaints justified? Discuss the problems a president encounters in obtaining bureaucratic cooperation. Be sure to point out the causes of these problems.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Viewers’ Ages and Frequency of Viewing of Network Nightly**  **News: 1974 and 2002 Combined** | | | |
| 1974 Frequently (%) Rarely (%) | | | |
| 18-29 | 45 | 13 | |
| 30-44 | 50 | 12 | |
| 45-64 | 68 | 8 | |
| 65 and older | 71 | 5 | |
| 2002 | Frequently (%) | Rarely (%) | |
| 18-29 | 19 | 22 | |
| 30-44 | 22 | | 17 |
| 45-64 | 40 | | 11 |
| 65 and older | 53 | | 8 |

One of the most important ways the news media influence politics is through agenda setting.

(a) Define policy agenda.

(b) Explain how the national news media engage in agenda setting.

(c) Explain the primary reason the president tends to have an advantage over Congress in gaining media attention.

(d) Consider the table above.

• Describe the difference in the viewing patterns of older and younger age-groups.

• Describe the change from 1974 to 2002 in viewing habits that exists for all age categories.

(e) Given the information in the table, describe one implication for presidents in their use of the media to promote their political and policy objectives to the American public.

**END OF EXAMINATION**